

POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS

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POLICE PERSONNEL COLLECT STUFFED ANIMALS FOR KIDS

A five-year-old girl darts out from the sidewalk and collides with a vehicle. Although not critically injured, the child is nearing hysteria. Public safety personnel have difficulty calming the child until a special emergency scene responder arrives....... a teddy bear! With the teddy bear to focus on, the little girl calms down and emergency personnel are able to care for her.

This Carlsbad incident is one of hundreds every year in San Diego County in which teddy bears can provide assistance to children in difficult situations.

Employees and volunteers from Carlsbad Police Department and other city departments will be contributing stuffed animals for children at Children's Hospital, Casa de Amparo, and the Women's Resource Center as part of the 19th annual Regional Law Enforcement Teddy Bear Drive. The teddy bears are used to provide comfort to children not only during the holidays but also throughout the year.

The Police Communications Center is serving as the temporary home for the stuffed animals. Last year, over 300 stuffed animals were collected from Carlsbad alone for the three organizations.

Anyone interested in contributing to the drive can bring a new stuffed animal to the Carlsbad Safety Center, 2560 Orion Way, during regular business hours. Stuffed animals must be delivered by December 14. The teddy bears being delivered to Children's Hospital will leave Carlsbad Police Department December 15 at 6 a.m. and will travel to Children's Hospital in a law enforcement caravan.

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